

Message

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Sent: 11/8/2018 3:14:39 PM
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CC: Ringel, Aaron [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1654bdc951284a6d899a418a89fb0abf-Ringel, Aar]; Rodrick, Christian [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6515dbe46dae466da53c8a3aa3be8cc2-Rodrick, Ch]
Subject: Recent EPA actions related to reviewing the current, and implementing existing, ozone NAAQS

Hi Peter,

I hope you are doing well. I wanted to let you know that EPA is taking a number of actions related to the ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). EPA is taking actions for: all ozone NAAQS, the current review cycle, implementing the 2015 rule, and later implementation steps for the 2008 rule (summary below).

Actions related to ozone NAAQS:

- All ozone NAAQS: Today, EPA released the “Guidance on the Preparation of Exceptional Events Demonstrations for Stratospheric Ozone Intrusions,” which is intended to assist air agencies in preparing demonstrations for stratospheric ozone intrusions that satisfy the requirements of the Exceptional Events Rule. Exceptional events are unusual or naturally occurring events that can affect air quality but are not reasonably controllable, and for which tribal, state or local air agencies may submit a demonstration to request exclusion of event-related air quality data from certain regulatory determinations to attain and maintain the NAAQS. For more information, see: <https://www.epa.gov/air-quality-analysis/treatment-air-quality-data-influenced-exceptional-events>.
- Current review of the existing ozone NAAQS: EPA has released the draft Integrated Review Plan (IRP), which is the next step in the current review of the ozone NAAQS and contains the draft plans for an integrative assessment of current scientific information on health and welfare effects of ozone and evaluation of key aspects of the ozone NAAQS. EPA is committed to complete the review and finalize any revisions by the Clean Air Act deadline of October 2020. The draft IRP is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/naaqs/ozone-o3-standards-planning-documents-current-review>, and comments may be submitted at [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) on or before December 3, 2018, docket ID: EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0279.
- 2015 ozone NAAQS: Today, EPA issued the final rule for implementation of the 2015 ozone NAAQs, which details nonattainment area State Implementation Plan (SIP) requirements and other aspects of implementing the rule. Nonattainment area SIPs are due to EPA in 2020 or 2021, depending upon date of area designation. For more information, see: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-level-ozone-pollution/implementation-2015-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-ozone>.
- 2008 ozone NAAQS: EPA is proposing actions for 11 nonattainment areas classified as Moderate for the 2008 ozone NAAQS, which required the areas attain the standards by July 20, 2018. EPA is:
 - determining that both Baltimore, MD, and Mariposa County, CA, attained the standards by the attainment date;
 - granting both the Denver-Boulder-Greeley-Ft. Collins-Loveland, CO and Sheboygan County, WI areas a 1-year extension of the attainment date (until July 20, 2019); and
 - determining that seven areas,
 1. Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI,
 2. Dallas-Fort Worth, TX,
 3. Greater Connecticut, CT,
 4. Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX,
 5. Nevada County (Western part), CA,

6. New York-N. New Jersey-Long Island, CT-NY-NJ, and

7. San Diego County, CA, did not attain standards by the attainment date.

These seven areas would be reclassified as Serious nonattainment and would get until July 20, 2021 to achieve the standards once EPA's final action on this proposal takes effect. For more information on these actions, see <https://www.epa.gov/ground-level-ozone-pollution/2008-ozone-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-naaqs-nonattainment>.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Matthew

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Background information on the ozone NAAQS:

-For general information about ground-level ozone, click here: <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-pollution>.

-For information regarding EPA's periodic review of the NAAQS, click here: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

-For information regarding 2015 ozone NAAQS nonattainment area designations made over the past year, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/2015-ozone-standards-state-recommendations-epa-responses-and-technical-support> and <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/ozone-designations-regulatory-actions>.

-For information regarding the state implementation plan development process, see: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/naaqs-implementation-process> and <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-pollution/state-implementation-plan-sip-checklist-guide>.